

## FRYER HERE AS SMITH RESIGNS DIRECTOR'S JOB

Eastburn R. Smith has resigned as director of the Gila River Relocation Project, according to an announcement today from administrative headquarters.

Mr. Smith came to the Gila Project last April shortly after the announcement that a relocation project would be built here. He had previously been Assistant Regional Conservator of the Soil Conservation Service in the Southwest Region with headquarters in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Mr. Smith plans to return to his Albuquerque home early next week. He will be accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Anne M. Smith, who has served as Counselor at the Project.

Pending the appointment of Mr. Smith's successor, Mr. E.R. Fryer, Regional WRA Director in San Francisco, will be acting director of the Gila River Project.

GILA

# News Courier

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## COLONISTS ASKED TO HARVEST ARIZONA LONG STAPLE COTTON

Urgent appeals to evacuees at the Gila River Project to volunteer for employment in picking Arizona's long-staple cotton crop--a vital commodity in building combat equipment for the United Nations--came today from several federal government agencies.

The Western Defense Command and Fourth Army has given special approval to the employment of evacuees in Maricopa and Pinal Counties for picking of the long-staple crop. The Gila River Project is located

### Block Removal Schedule Given

Blocks 41 and 43 will be used for schools the administration reaffirmed. A petition submitted by Block 73 requesting 41 be reserved for the residents of 73 was rejected for various reasons. Blocks 39 and 40 as originally scheduled will be reserved for the residents of Blocks 73 and 74.

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in Pinal County while Maricopa County, lying north and west of Pinal County, includes the rich Salt River Valley, centering around Phoenix.

The United States Employment Service, following a survey of labor needs and supply for moving the vitally-important long staple crop has certified that local labor sources are insufficient and that evacuees at the Gila River Project offer the only means of meeting a critical situation.

From E.R. Fryer, now acting project director here, came an urgent request to evacuees "to volunteer for a job that's every bit as important as serving in a uniform."

Fryer emphasized "that Arizona's long-staple cotton ranks with tin, rubber, copper, steel, and many other strategic materials in building the machines of war. One of our important sources of long-staple cotton--Egypt--lies within an important war zone where Axis submarines are cracking at our supply line. We must conserve every ounce of our domestic crop."

### JACL Officials Back Labor Drive

From national headquarters of the JACL in Salt Lake City, came an earnest appeal to evacuees to volunteer for the long-staple harvest. Copies of the Pacific Citizen carrying the JACL appeal are being distributed throughout the Gila River Project with WRA cooperation and assistance. Distribution is under Nobu Kawai, 58-18-C.

## WOMEN URGED TO WORK

A round-up of information for evacuees revealed the following developments:

1. The first group of 200 pickers, about 100 from each camp, will be moving toward the cotton fields about 6 a.m. on Monday morning. They will be picked up at mess halls in Diesel trucks, equipped with seats, and transported to the Thornburn and Smith properties, about 30 miles south of the Gila Project. They will be returned to the project each evening before 8 o'clock. There is no charge for transportation.

2. Arrangements are being completed to serve an early breakfast at 5:15 a.m. to evacuees working in the cotton fields and also a late dinner at 8:30 p.m. To start with, one mess hall will be open for these special meals at each camp. Later, as more workers take such employment, other mess halls will be opened.

3. A lunch will be prepared by Community Enterprises and available workers at the mess halls.

4. No charge will be made for the subsistence of dependents who volunteer for cotton picking. Each worker, however, will be charged 15 cents for breakfast and 15 cents for dinner which is the government's present food cost. In addition, Community Enterprises will supply workers with a box lunch at 25 cents.

5. In addition to cotton pickers the Thornburn and Smith properties have also requested evacuees as truck drivers, row bosses, weighers, and cashiers.

6. Surveys indicate most growers in the vicinity of the Gila Project cannot furnish food and shelter and almost all workers, therefore, will be furnished transportation back and forth each day.

7. The standard rate of pay will be 33 for a hundred pounds which means 3¢ a pound.

8. Women as well as men are urged to volunteer for this important patriotic duty. WRA officials emphasized today.